

(2) The system must have been calibrated within the previous four years; eighteen to thirty months after that calibration, the system must have been intercompared at an intercomparison meeting with another dosimetry system that was calibrated within the past twenty-four months by the National Institute of Standards and Technology or by a calibration laboratory accredited by the AAPM. The intercomparison meeting must be sanctioned by a calibration laboratory or radiologic physics center accredited by the AAPM. The results of the intercomparison meeting must have indicated that the calibration factor of the licensee's system had not changed by more than 2 percent. The licensee may not use the intercomparison result to change the calibration factor. When intercomparing dosimetry systems to be used for calibrating cobalt-60 teletherapy units, the licensee shall use a teletherapy unit with a cobalt-60 source. When intercomparing dosimetry systems to be used for calibrating cesium-137 teletherapy units, the licensee shall use a teletherapy unit with a cesium-137 source.

(b) The licensee shall have available for use a dosimetry system for spot-check measurements. To satisfy this requirement, the system may be compared with a system that has been calibrated in accordance with paragraph (a) of this section. This comparison must have been performed within the previous year and after each servicing that may have affected system calibration. The spot-check system may be the same system used to meet the requirement in paragraph (a) of this section.

(c) The licensee shall retain a record of each calibration, intercomparison, and comparison for the duration of the license. For each calibration, intercomparison, or comparison, the record must include the date, the model numbers and serial numbers of the instruments that were calibrated, intercompared, or compared as required by paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section, the correction factor that was determined from the calibration or comparison or the apparent correction factor that was determined from an intercomparison, the names of the individuals who per-

formed the calibration, intercomparison, or comparison, and evidence that the intercomparison meeting was sanctioned by a calibration laboratory or radiologic physics center accredited by AAPM.

[51 FR 36951, Oct. 16, 1986, as amended at 56 FR 23471, May 21, 1991]

§ 35.632 Full calibration measurements.

(a) A licensee authorized to use a teletherapy unit for medical use shall perform full calibration measurements on each teletherapy unit:

(1) Before the first medical use of the unit; and

(2) Before medical use under the following conditions:

(i) Whenever spot-check measurements indicate that the output differs by more than 5 percent from the output obtained at the last full calibration corrected mathematically for radioactive decay;

(ii) Following replacement of the source or following reinstallation of the teletherapy unit in a new location;

(iii) Following any repair of the teletherapy unit that includes removal of the source or major repair of the components associated with the source exposure assembly; and

(3) At intervals not exceeding one year.

(b) To satisfy the requirement of paragraph (a) of this section, full calibration measurements must include determination of:

(1) The output within ± 3 percent for the range of field sizes and for the distance or range of distances used for medical use;

(2) The coincidence of the radiation field and the field indicated by the light beam localizing device;

(3) The uniformity of the radiation field and its dependence on the orientation of the useful beam;

(4) Timer constancy and linearity over the range of use;

(5) On-off error; and

(6) The accuracy of all distance measuring and localization devices in medical use.

(c) A licensee shall use the dosimetry system described in § 35.630(a) to measure the output for one set of exposure conditions. The remaining radiation

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measurements required in paragraph (b)(1) of this section may be made using a dosimetry system that indicates relative dose rates.

(d) A licensee shall make full calibration measurements required by paragraph (a) of this section in accordance with either the procedures recommended by the Scientific Committee on Radiation Dosimetry of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine that are described in *Physics in Medicine and Biology* Vol. 16, No. 3, 1971, pp. 379–396, or by Task Group 21 of the Radiation Therapy Committee of the American Association of Physicists in Medicine that are described in *Medical Physics* Vol. 10, No. 6, 1983, pp. 741–771, and Vol. 11, No. 2, 1984, p. 213. (Both of these references have been approved for incorporation by reference by the Director of the Federal Register. Copies of the documents are available for inspection at the NRC Library, 11545 Rockville Pike, Rockville, Maryland 20852–2738. Copies of the documents are also on file at the Office of the Federal Register, 800 North Capitol Street NW., suite 700, Washington, DC. A notice of any change in the material will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.)

(e) A licensee shall correct mathematically the outputs determined in paragraph (b)(1) of this section for physical decay for intervals not exceeding one month for cobalt-60 or six months for cesium-137.

(f) Full calibration measurements required by paragraph (a) of this section and physical decay corrections required by paragraph (e) of this section must be performed by the licensee's teletherapy physicist.

(g) A licensee shall retain a record of each calibration for the duration of use of the teletherapy unit source. The record must include the date of the calibration, the manufacturer's name, model number, and serial number for both the teletherapy unit and the source, the model numbers and serial numbers of the instruments used to calibrate the teletherapy unit, tables that describe the output of the unit over the range of field sizes and for the range of distances used in radiation therapy, a determination of the coincidence of the radiation field and the field indicated by the light beam local-

izing device, an assessment of timer linearity and constancy, the calculated on-off error, the estimated accuracy of each distance measuring or localization device, and the signature of the teletherapy physicist.

[51 FR 36951, Oct. 16, 1986, as amended at 53 FR 43420, Oct. 27, 1988; 57 FR 61786, Dec. 29, 1992; 59 FR 50689, Oct. 5, 1994]

§ 35.634 Periodic spot-checks.

(a) A licensee authorized to use teletherapy units for medical use shall perform output spot-checks on each teletherapy unit once in each calendar month that include determination of:

(1) Timer constancy, and timer linearity over the range of use;

(2) On-off error;

(3) The coincidence of the radiation field and the field indicated by the light beam localizing device;

(4) The accuracy of all distance measuring and localization devices used for medical use;

(5) The output for one typical set of operating conditions measured with the dosimetry system described in § 35.630(b) of this part; and

(6) The difference between the measurement made in paragraph (b)(5) of this section and the anticipated output, expressed as a percentage of the anticipated output (i.e., the value obtained at last full calibration corrected mathematically for physical decay).

(b) A licensee shall perform measurements required by paragraph (a) of this section in accordance with procedures established by the teletherapy physicist. That individual need not actually perform the spotcheck measurements.

(c) A licensee shall have the teletherapy physicist review the results of each spot-check within 15 days. The teletherapy physicist shall promptly notify the licensee in writing of the results of each spot-check. The licensee shall keep a copy of each written notification for three years.

(d) A licensee authorized to use a teletherapy unit for medical use shall perform safety spot-checks of each teletherapy facility once in each calendar month that assure proper operation of:

(1) Electrical interlocks at each teletherapy room entrance;

(2) Electrical or mechanical stops installed for the purpose of limiting use